

REMARKS

Claims 1-12, 17 and 18 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, 1, 3, 5 and 11 are amended. The amendments introduce no new matter. A Request for Continued Examination is attached. Reconsideration of the application based on the above amendments and the following remarks is respectfully requested.

The Office Action rejects claims 3 and 11 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph. Claims 3 and 11 are amended to obviate these rejections. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claims 3 and 11 under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, are respectfully requested.

The Office Action rejects claims 1, 3-5, 11, 12, 17 and 18 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over U.S. Patent No. 6,756,252 to Nakanishi in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,445,069 to Ling et al. (hereinafter "Ling"); rejects claims 6 and 7 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Nakanishi and Ling further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,625,032 to Ito et al. (hereinafter "Ito"); and rejects claims 2 and 8-10 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Nakanishi, Ling and Ito and further in view of JP-A-01-164044. These rejections are respectfully traversed.

The Office Action relies on Nakanishi as disclosing several of the features of independent claims 1 and 5. Specifically, the Office Action references Fig. 14A as depicting relevant features. However, Nakanishi does not teach, nor can it reasonably be considered to have suggested, at least the features of an insulating section formed above and adjacent to the chip component, the insulating section having a convex surface that draws a curve on a view from which a cross section perpendicular to the first surface of the chip component is taken, the convex surface ascending from the first surface to have a top surface and descending from the top surface in an outward direction, the insulating section having a portion above the first surface that has a lower surface than the top surface. An exemplary embodiment depicting such features is shown, for example, in Fig. 4 of the application as filed. The allegedly

corresponding insulating sections depicted in Nakanishi ascend to a planar top surface over the die 10, as depicted in Fig. 14A of Nakanishi. None of the other prior art references are applied in a manner to overcome the identified shortfalls in Nakanishi.

For at least the above reason, the applied prior art references do not teach, nor can the reasonably be considered to have suggested, all of the combinations of features positively recited in independent claims 1 and 5. Additionally, claims 2-4, 6-12, 17 and 18 are also neither taught, nor would they have been suggested, by the applied prior art references for at least the respective dependence of these claims, directly or indirectly, on independent claims 1 and 5, as well as for the separately patentable subject matter that each of these claims recites.

Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claims 1-12, 17 and 18 over any combination of the applied prior art references are respectfully requested.


The Office Action asserts a provisional nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting rejection of claims 1-12, 17 and 18 over claims 1-34 of U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 10/788449 in view of Nakanishi and Ling. This rejection is respectfully traversed.

Without conceding the appropriateness of the Office Action's characterization of the differences between any of the features of the pending claims and those of U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 10/788449, and without conceding the obviousness of any alleged differences in the claims, Applicant asserts that the current claims are patentably distinct from those of U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 10/788449 at least for the inclusion of the above-discussed features, which the application of Nakanishi and Ling do not render obvious.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 1-12, 17 and 18 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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JAO:JEG/hms

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Attachment:

Request for Continued Examination

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